

Message Text

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SUBJ: YUGOSLAV MARKET FOR FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING EQUIPMENT
(EPP): REGULATIONS AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENT

1. TARIFF. DUTY RATES ON FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING EQUIPMENT IN YUGOSLAVIA RANGE FROM 20 TO 29 PERCENT AD VALOREM. THE RATE ON MOST FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING EQUIPMENT IS 25 OR 26 PERCENT. IN ADDITION TO DUTY, IMPORT TAXES OF 16 PERCENT AD VALOREM ARE PAYABLE AT THE BORDER (10 PERCENT IMPORT TAX, 5 PERCENT TAX-EQUALIZATION LEVY, 1 PERCENT CUSTOMS EVIDENCE TAX). THESE TAXES ARE FIXED AND APPLY TO ALL IMPORTED GOODS REGARDLESS OF THE DUTY RATE.

2. IMPORT REGIME. THE YUGOSLAV IMPORT REGIME PLACES ALL IMPORTED GOODS INTO CATEGORY DESIGNATIONS. ONLY THREE DESIGNATIONS ARE APPLIED TO FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT. THEY ARE LB, GDK, AND DK.

LB - MEANS THAT IMPORT OF THAT ITEM IS UNRESTRICTED SO LONG AS BANKS HAVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO SELL TO IMPORTERS.

GDK - IS A GENERAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE ALLOCATION TO AN INDIVIDUAL END-USER FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. AN IMPORTER MAY RECEIVE A GDK ALLOCATION FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS OF PRODUCTS: RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-FINISHED GOODS, MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, CONSUMER GOODS, AND PRODUCTS FOR CERTAIN PROJECT OR DESIGNATED PURPOSES. HE CAN CHOOSE TO SPEND THE ALLOCATION ON ANY GOOD DESIGNATED GDK IN THE GROUP (S) FOR WHICH HE HAS RECEIVED AN ALLOCATION.

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DK - IS A FOREIGN EXCHANGE QUOTA FOR A SPECIFIC PRODUCT,

EXPRESSED IN AN ABSOLUTE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE WHICH CAN BE SPENT ON IMPORT OF THAT ITEM DURING THE CURRENT YEAR. MOST FPP EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNATED GDK AND LB IN THE PRESENT IMPORT REGIME.

3. A NEW CUSTOMS TARIFF IS BEING PREPARED AND IS EXPECTED TO BE PASSED BY THE END OF 1976 OR IN THE EARLY 1977. IT MAY CHANGE BOTH DUTY RATES AND DESIGNATION OF PRODUCTS UNDER THE IMPORT REGIME.

4. COUNTER TRADE. YUGOSLAV ENTERPRISES MUST ARRANGE SOME EXPORTS FOR HARD CURRENCY -- USUALLY 30 PERCENT OF THE VALUE OF THE IMPORT IN THE CASE OF EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING FPP--TO HELP GENERATE CONVERTIBLE EXCHANGE FOR THEIR FOREIGN PURCHASES. A SEPARATE SECTION OF THIS REPORT (SEPT 1977 TO FOLLOW) DISCUSSES THE SEVERAL WAYS IN WHICH ENTERPRISES CAN SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT.

5. DOMESTIC AVAILABILITY REVIEW. BEFORE AN IMPORT IS AUTHORIZED, A GROUP OF YUGOSLAV END-USERS, MANUFACTURERS, AND FOREIGN TRADE COMPANIES MUST DETERMINE THAT A SUITABLE DOMESTIC SUBSTITUTE IS UNAVAILABLE. IN CONSIDERING SUITABILITY OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTS, SUCH FACTORS AS QUALITY, PRICE AND DELIVERY DATE ARE NORMALLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

6. NO SPECIAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS OR LABELING REQUIREMENTS EXIST FOR IMPORTED FPP EQUIPMENT.

7. ELECTRICAL SUPPLY IN YUGOSLAVIA IS 220/380 VOLTS, 50 CYCLES.

8. YUGOSLAVIA HAS METRIC SYSTEM.

9. EMBASSY CAN CABLE TARIFF RATES AND IMPORT REGIME FOR EACH FPP PRODUCT IF USDOC URGENTLY NEEDS THIS INFORMATION. NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT LIST GIVING THIS INFORMATION BY BTN, SITC, AND PRODUCT DESIGNATIONS BEING AIRMAILED TO CMM.
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